

For the past year or more I have been very concerned about Sinclair Broadcasting's daily "commentaries" by Mark Hyman. These diatribes are no more than daily free Republican infomercials. There is no vehicle for presenting opposing opinions; Saturday night "mailbags" are a joke since Hyman has total control over the one or two-liners he chooses to air. His commentaries are not fair-minded. They are undemocratic and they do not serve the public good. They are using the public airwaves to further their personal partisan ideologies. Champaign-Urbana, Illinois will not put up with this! PLEASE!!!! The FCC MUST REINSTATE THEIR POLICY OF EQUAL AIR TIME FOR REBUTTAL OF COMMENTARIES.

I feel equally strongly about the upcoming movie that Sinclair Broadcasting Company plans to air just before the election. This SURELY IS ILEGAL? IF NOT, IT IS JUST PLAIN WRONG, and our FCC should take a stand.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.